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GROUP 3600



CLEAN VERSION OF THE TWO REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPHS IN THE
SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION:

b1
According to one aspect of the invention, bindings that would normally be fastened to the snowboard are instead both fastened to a binding support platform. A platform retention assembly is fastened to the snowboard. The platform retention assembly includes preloaded compliant members that form interfaces with contours on the binding support platform. The interfaces prevent the binding support platform from separating from the platform retention assembly except when a force or torque applied to the snowboard exceeds a set threshold (i.e. except under crash conditions). The platform retention assembly includes firm members, surfaces, or edges that contact firm mating members, surfaces, or edges on the binding support platform to prevent pure translation of the binding support platform relative to the platform retention assembly in the plane of the snowboard. The firm members, surfaces, or edges, and the firm mating members, surfaces, or edges are arranged such that the contacts between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, are all tangent about one mutual center point.

According to another aspect of the invention, a platform retention plate is fastened to the snowboard. The binding support platform is part of a binding support platform assembly that includes preloaded compliant members that form interfaces with contours on the platform retention plate. The interfaces prevent the binding support platform assembly from separating from the platform retention plate except when a force or torque applied to the snowboard exceeds a set threshold (i.e. except under crash conditions). The platform retention plate includes firm members, surfaces, or edges that contact firm mating members, surfaces, or edges on the binding support platform assembly to prevent pure translation of the binding support platform assembly relative to the platform retention plate in the plane of the snowboard. The firm members, surfaces, or edges, and the firm mating members, surfaces, or edges are arranged such that the contacts between them, when projected onto the plane of the snowboard, are all tangent about one mutual center point.

CLEAN VERSION OF THE TWO REPLACEMENT PARAGRAPHS IN THE
DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS
OF THE INVENTION:

b² In the preferred embodiment of FIG. 6, raised ribs 36 - 39 rise in the Z direction from the surface of plate 21. Ribs 36 - 39 can be separate parts attached to plate 21 by standard fasteners such as machine screws inserted from the back of plate 21, by welding, or by a strong adhesive in the case where ribs 36 - 39 are fitted into recessed groves in plate 21 to increase the shear strength of the bond. Alternatively, plate 21 can be molded or formed to include ribs 36 - 39 as a single part. Since ribs 36 - 39 of the preferred embodiment of FIG. 6 are curved, if the ribs are to be manufactured by press forming then holes may be required in plate 21 to prevent warping and other distortion of the plate. The outside edges of ribs 36 - 39 contact the inside edges of region 13 of binding support platform 10, preventing "pure" lateral and longitudinal motion of binding support platform 10 in the X - Y plane relative to plate 21. What is meant by "pure" lateral and longitudinal motion of binding support platform 10 in the X - Y plane, is lateral or longitudinal motion relative to plate 21 occurring without separation of binding support platform 10 away from plate 21 in the Z direction. The ribs 36 - 39 do not, by themselves, prevent motion of binding support platform 10 relative to plate 21 in the Z direction. In the preferred embodiment shown in FIG. 6, ribs 36 - 39 are curved and arranged in a single circle in the X - Y plane so that they do not, by themselves, prevent rotation of binding support platform 10 relative to plate 21 about the Z axis. The ribs 36 - 39 are also given some vertical curvature in the outer surface of their cross-sectional aspect so that they do not, by themselves, prevent rotation of binding support platform 10 relative to plate 21 about the X axis or Y axis (as would occur if binding support platform 10 separated from plate 21 as a result of a torque about the X axis or Y axis). In another preferred embodiment, ribs 36 - 39 are replaced by discrete pegs rising from the surface of plate 21 and having outside edges that are arranged to be tangent about one mutual center point in the X - Y plane.

b³ In the preferred embodiment of FIGS. 11-14, binding support platform 71 includes downwardly protruding ribs 84 - 87 that are part of or are fastened to the underside of region 13